

The 14th day of Lent

But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Jeremiah 29:7

Doesn't it seem insane to pray for leaders when we completely disagree with their priorities and their vision? How did these words sound to exiled Judeans who were stuck in Babylon against their will? Pray for the very people who are holding us captive? When a political party is in the minority, we hear a lot of criticism and people actively hoping that things go very wrong for their political adversaries who are in power.

God's point of view is so much wider than our and God's love encompasses all people. How might we be changed if we could see people we dislike as God see them? What might happen if we actively pray for people we disagreed with? Could we try it for a week? Make a list of people who may have never made it onto our prayer list. Hold them in your heart and pray for their welfare.

See Acts 16:20-4 and then read verse 27 and 28. The jailer was ready to take his life but Paul and Silas did not escape. What was the unexpected ending of this story?